THE LUTHERAN Witness

Official Organ of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States

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Pastors and Evangelists of Three Mission Districts Meet in Ambur, India

The booklet by Prof. F. E. Mayer, D. D., *To Sign or Not to Sign the Catholic Prenuptial Contract,* according to a note in our Student Service Commission's *Newsletter,* evoked an exclamation of joy from an Episcopal rector who saw the publication on the desk of Pastor W. B. Schuldt of Geneva, N. Y. The rector is stated to have promptly ordered four dozen copies.

At least three Lutheran high schools for the Greater Chicago area, each to accommodate a minimum of 500 pupils, is the goal for which plans are now taking definite form. The estimated cost is $2,000,000, and the gathering of this sum will get under way about Easter, 1946. The general campaign committee is headed by Dr. Arthur Klinck, president of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest.

Another forward stride by our Church in the Greater Miami area was marked by the dedication in November of the new Redeemer Lutheran Church in Miami Shores, Fla. Organized in May, 1945, the congregation numbers 102 members. In the evening service on the dedication day the young pastor of the church, the Rev. H. F. Krach, who graduated from Concordia Seminary January, 1945, was installed by his father, the Rev. George M. Krach of Detroit, Mich.

Among eight expert authorities in international relations scheduled to take part in the Annual Pre-Christmas Peace Panel under the auspices of the Bronxville (N.Y.) Community Forum appears the name of President Arthur J. Doege of our Bronxville Concordia. All participants, with the exception of S. Chandrasekhar, a Hindu scholar from India, are residents of the community. They will discuss the timely topic: "Are We Winning the Peace?"

The Southern Illinois District Mission Board, meeting at Troy, Ill., on Nov. 7, officially took over the Negro mission at Alton known as Berea Bible Group. Lots for a chapel will be secured in a substantial middle-class Negro settlement. The mission is to remain in charge of Mr. Arthur Vincent, student of theology at our Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The group at present worships in private homes. Twenty-six children are enrolled in the Sunday school and crowd the available quarters to capacity.

The 249 German prisoners of war at Camp Windsor, Calif., were informed by Pastor R. F. Holtzen, who conducts weekly services for them, that our synodical officials, Drs. J. W. Behnken and L. Meyer, on their recent trip to Europe had promised the sum of $100,000 to provide for 1,000 "warphans." The PW's at once increased the gift which they had gathered for relief in Germany to $1,145, with the stipulation that this sum be used in connection with the proposed orphanage.

Chaplain (Capt.) Henry F. Gerecke, one of our chaplains serving with the United States Army of Occupation in Germany, has been ministering to Protestants among the defendants at the Nuernberg trial. On Nov. 18 he conducted a service for them in which he preached in German for the first time in fifteen years. Field Marshal Kesselring, according to a letter from Chaplain Gerecke, was moved to tears, and others declared that they were touched by the message of the Gospel which they had heard.

Hope Lutheran Church in the late development known as Village of Mary Ridge, St. Louis County, Mo., recently dedicated its new chapel, which was built by members of the congregation with no costs for labor. A Western District Church Extension loan and a liberal gift from the Students' Missionary Society at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, financed the purchase of the materials used. Mr. Wm. Rabenneck, a charter member of the congregation, was the builder; other members of the church and friends helped in the construction. The Rev. Karl Riehl, a recent graduate of Concordia Seminary, is the pastor.

The picture "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," which won the September medal of the *Parents' Magazine* as the best family movie of the month, is built around the early life of Mrs. Florence Gunderson, member of Grace Lutheran Church, Corona, Calif. The setting is a Norwegian rural community of Wisconsin. All the characters represented are Lutherans, and a Lutheran service and Christmas program are shown.

They Served the Boys Overseas

Pastor and Mrs. Wetzstein with ten ladies of the Thawville Church who went to Chicago to aid in the offices of the Army and Navy Commission

How the Roman Catholic version of the Bible helped to bring a man into the Lutheran Church is told by the convert himself in the Nov. 25 issue of the *Northwestern Lutheran,* the Wisconsin Synod's church paper. Married to a Lutheran girl, whom he hoped to make a Roman Catholic, he arranged with the parish priest to give her religious instructions. On her insistent demand the priest supplied her with a Douay version of the Bible to enable her to check up on the Scripturalness of Romish teachings. Thereupon husband and wife diligently searched the Scriptures, with the result that the former became convinced that the Church of which he had thus far been a member did not teach the doctrines of the Word of God. Six years of search for the truth finally led him to seek membership in one of the congregations of the Wisconsin Synod.

G. V. S.

Adult membership group, confirmed at Faith Lutheran Church, Los Angeles, by the Rev. C. W. Berner, pastor, on Sunday, Sept. 30. Pastor Berner is standing in back row, sixth from left

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THE LUTHERAN Witness

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Editorial Committee: THEODORE GRAEBNER; MARTIN S. SOMMER
Associate Editors: W. G. POLACK; G. V. SCHICK; R. R. CAEMMERER
Research Assistant: KARL KRETZMANN

Editorial

In the Name of Jesus

Thus the Christian begins a new year. It is the name of our salvation, the name above every name. In Jesus' name we may approach the Mercy Seat. For the sake of that name God will hear our prayer.

Looking back, we know that all temporal and spiritual blessings we have enjoyed were bestowed for Jesus' sake. Looking ahead, we can be certain that God will continue to shower blessings upon us for His sake. His mercies will be new every morning.

In that spirit, at this time, we worship our God in the words of the Church's Collect for New Year's Day:

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift, we give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits, temporal and spiritual, bestowed upon us in the year past, and we beseech Thee of Thy goodness, grant us a favorable and joyful year, defend us from all dangers and adversities, and send upon us the fullness of Thy blessing; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

W. G. P.

Facts Worth Noting

According to the *Yearbook of American Churches* there are enrolled in the churches of America 64,501,594 members. Of these the Roman Catholic Church claims 21,284,455. That leaves 43,217,139 members of all other churches and cults. The *Watchman-Examiner* (Baptist) calls attention to the fact that Baptists lead all other Protestant bodies. But it must admit: "We cannot make progress in many urban areas." It seems that while the Baptists have about held their own in the country districts, their city churches, especially those in large cities, have not done so well. In St. Louis, for instance, there is one very populous Baptist congregation. Then there are a few others which claim a fair membership, and in addition there are a number of struggling missions. The same periodical mentions the fact that membership in the Methodist Church has declined. According to our statistics the grand total of all Lutheran bodies of America shows 5,250,923 members.

However, the important item in these statistics to which we would call attention is the sad fact that there are more than seventy million Americans who are not affiliated with any church. True, it is a sad fact, but what a glorious opportunity for mission work! After being forced to spend millions for war and the work of destruction, should we not all the more eagerly seek to participate in this blessed work of spreading the glad tidings of the love of God in Christ Jesus the Savior? Every soldier, sailor, aviator, every private and officer who returns from the war should be filled with an intense desire to participate in the work of missions. We have been told of a number of these returning veterans who have decided to study for the ministry. Some wish to become missionaries. They have been impressed with the blessed fruit of this work of the Church. But even though all do not study for the ministry, all, also Wacs and Waves, who were permitted to return to their home congregation, should participate in the work of the Church to the utmost of their powers. God has wonderfully blessed these returning children of the Church. He has preserved their life. To all of them we would say:

"Forget not all His benefits!" S.

Funds for the Advancement of Scholarship

The thought is suggested by a recent note in the magazine *Science* concerning grants made to seven leading universities and laboratories by the Sugar Research Foundation, totaling $300,000. The grants are made to individual professors. In McGill University a professor is granted $10,000 for a three year's study of the effects of certain diets. Another, $10,000 for investigation of the use of sugars in human nutrition. Another, at the University of Pittsburgh, $7,000 to gather the result of certain experiments. Another is given $3,600 for certain vitamin research. And so down the line, more than $50,000 in one allotment of the Sugar Research Fund.

It reminds us of the manner in which Lutheran scholars were supported by the princes of Germany in their publication of theological works. Those great contributions to Biblical study which appeared in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries were usually financed by the ruling house, as the dedicatory page after the title page announced to the reader.

There are projects in Lutheran scholarship which await the generosity of the well-to-do. It is not possible to guarantee sales which will cover cost of printing, not to speak of the author's reward, when scholarly works appeal only to a family of experts. Yet is it by such works that the intellectual standing of a Church is rated; by this and *by nothing else.* It is not fair to ask Concordia Publishing House to print at a financial sacrifice of thousands of dollars some single work of erudition containing information indispensable for the searcher after historic facts. Experts in various fields should be made free for a year or two to produce works of scholarly standards in the field of church history, Biblical interpretation, biographies of famous men, psychology, and philosophy. As a memorial to parents or children there is nothing more permanent than a worthy and well-printed book. We use today the great products of the printers of 400 years ago, and if the world stands another 400 years, the theologian will still consult Luther on the *Freedom of the Will* and Calov's *Biblia Illustrata.* G.

Americans Tempted to Despise Others

Our daily press and many of our periodicals, our radios and our cinemas, have harped upon the cruelties and shameful atrocities of foreign nations. After reading these harrowing details of concentration camps, after beholding the distressing pictures of starved, dying wretches, it is so easy to follow the Pharisee in saying, "God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men are." Just now we Americans are tempted by this sin. But we ought to keep in mind that this despising of others is the surest way of bringing God's wrath upon ourselves. We have just thanked God for preserving us from the worst of the calamities which have befallen so many. We have been told to behold the severity of the Lord and therefore turn from our sin and repent of it. Instead of boasting of our own righteousness, we should humbly pray, "God be merciful to me, a sinner!" There should be in our hearts that confession which was made by a celebrated, honored clergyman when seeing a classmate of his lying intoxicated in the gutter: "There but for the grace of God am I!"

Moreover, is it not humiliating to read of the increasing lawlessness of our own people? The press has reported that the crime of racketeers and of gangsters has so increased in New York City alone that it has gotten out of the hand of the police. Not only the Japanese, not only the Italians, not only the Germans, not only the Russians, are guilty before God, we, we also are guilty. We read that the German clergy are confessing their sin because they did not resist sufficiently their own tyrannical government. Just so it is the duty of the Church in America to tell America, "To your knees!" "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." It is for every one of us to pray with David, "Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation!" "Wash me throughly from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me." S.

Church Bells for Scrap

We have all been saddened again and again by pictures showing the late war's devastation. One such picture came to our attention recently. It showed the dock area of Hamburg where bells taken from churches in Germany and the once-German occupied countries in Europe were piled in heaps. There are about five thousand of these bells in four big dumps on these docks, where they had been placed, awaiting the day when they would be melted for uses of war and bloodshed. Bells that had once been rung to call men to worship, to direct men's hearts from earthly to heavenly things, and to peal out their messages to the glory of God, these were to wreak havoc, death, and destruction. What a sorry travesty!

The thought that obtruded itself most strongly on our mind as we studied this picture was this: Is this graveyard of bells to be viewed symbolically as the doom of the Church in the land of the Reformation? That is the opinion of some, and who would charge them with extreme pessimism in view of the reports that reach us from some quarters? However, our own synodical President in his report on conditions in Europe does not altogether share this view. According to Dr. Behnken the future will not be so dark if the Christians of America will help feed and clothe the homeless and destitute, and if our Lutheran people in America will help the Lutheran churches in Europe to rehabilitate themselves. That to us seems to be the challenge of these bells on the docks at Hamburg! Let us by our gifts and prayers do our part so that the church bells in Germany and its neighboring countries may once again ring out their calls to worship for people who love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ! W. G. P.

Tithers

Some time ago we mentioned, by the way, the literature which may be obtained from the Laymen's Tithing Foundation in Chicago. A brother writes in that he has two years ago examined all of the literature of this Foundation and "found only a few pieces which may be used by our brethren. Much of it is definitely legalistic."

We have previously referred to the tithing literature published by some of our brethren in Fort Wayne, the Rev. Erwin Kurth and Rev. Herman Zehnder. The literature is indeed of unusual excellence. It is available to any congregation desiring it. These folders and pamphlets have been used in a number of joint stewardship efforts of our congregations in Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, and in St. Paul, Minn. The success of these efforts has been extraordinary. The congregations participating in St. Paul were twenty-eight, with a total number of 14,000 communicants. The total increase of subscriptions over the previous year was $70,000. The effort closed with 709 tithers. Similar joint campaigns are being arranged for Minneapolis, all of North and South Carolina, and the Ontario District. G.

Introducing Your Predecessors

In some cases we might call them ancestors. But be that as it may, we must all become acquainted with some of those who lived here before we arrived on this earth. No one can be an adult Christian if he knows nothing of the lives of some of those who have preceded us on this planet. Therefore God Himself has taken care to teach us the most important parts of the history of the world. In God's Book, the Bible, we have a record which no man can know except he learns it from this Book.

But even since the last word of the Bible was written, much has happened that we Christians should know. We should certainly learn something of the struggles of the early Christians, of the corruption which attacked the growing Church, of the much-needed cleansing which the Lutheran Reformation produced, and also of the wonderful ways of God in planting His Church in this and other countries. Therefore God Himself calls to us: "Forget not all His benefits!"

Moreover, we should not forget that Lutherans contributed much to the growth, the development, and the moral stamina of this country. We should also note that the same malady which poisoned the Church during the Dark Ages is attempting to creep into the Church today. History should help us to recognize this evil and to oppose it. In order to aid us in all this, we have our Historical Institute with headquarters in St. Louis. This institute publishes the *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly*, which keeps an exact record of what is going on in the kingdom of Christ upon earth. The last number of this *Quarterly* is especially valuable. It is distinctly worth reading and will serve excellently to stimulate in us the love of true history. Remember, history repeats itself. Much of the future, therefore, may be learned by a study of the past. S.

The Turn of the Year

By MARTIN S. SOMMER

Hear the tolling of the bells — iron bells!
What a world of solemn thought their monody compels!
In the silence of the night,
How we shiver with affright
At the melancholy menace of their tone!

Who is so dull that at this time of the year he will give no thought to past, present, and future? Even at other times the striking of the clock or the tolling of a bell should remind us of the passing of time. But certainly when an entire year "folds up its tent and steals away" and the new year looms up before us, the tolling of the bell should awaken us to solemn thought. Certainly, as men think of the dreadful things which have happened in the past and call to mind that history repeats itself, they may feel affrighted, and gloom may settle upon their minds. At such a time what thoughts may come to men — thoughts of regret, thoughts of fear, thoughts of irreparable loss, thoughts of danger, of threatening woe, of dire disease! Would not all this oppress the world if the world did not seek for some palliative, something to relieve the frightful tension? Now, what remedy is it that many thought of New Year's night? Some thought of loud hilarity. Many believe that relief may be found in drink, and so they combined a wild party, jesting, laughter, blowing of horns, and ringing of bells, with excess in food and drink. The lives of some are so empty, so dreary, so cold and cheerless that they are driven to seek artificial hilarity. They seek to stupefy the mind and the senses, they seek diversion. If they would quietly think of the past, memories might produce such sadness, such regret, as to make life almost unbearable. If they think of the future, dread of what is to come may oppress them and blot out all joy from their souls. Therefore many plunge into any kind of merrymaking in order, for a brief moment at least, to enjoy a make-believe happiness. What a gloomy, sad, hopeless picture the world presents! What folly to seek happiness in a drunken spree! What folly to waste your goods with riotous living! The failure of all this we may behold in Washington, D. C., which leads our American cities in drink and — suicide.

We as Christians certainly had something better to offer. We did not spend Sylvester Eve and New Year's Day in gloom and sorrow. No! We did not have to choose between ungodly revelry, intoxicated hilarity, boisterous, foolish merrymaking — and the gloom of self-reproach, self-condemnation, hopeless moaning and groaning. God, our merciful, kind, heavenly Father, offers us true, lasting happiness. Let us ever seek that! Satan would tell you that you must either eat of forbidden fruit or be miserable all the rest of your life. That is the devil's picture. But, however false it is, it has deceived many.

Do you remember those three foolish men who refused the invitation to the great supper by saying that they were prevented from coming, the one because he had bought a piece of ground and had to go and see it, the other because he had bought five yoke of oxen and had to prove them, the third because he had married a wife. All three of these men were deceived by Satan, who made them believe that they either had to give up the land, the oxen, and the wife or refuse the invitation to the supper. To this day Satan makes many believe that to accept the invitation of the Lord Jesus to come and follow Him means that you dare not own any property and you dare not marry. But James, Peter, John, and other Apostles were married men, Matt. 8:14; 1 Cor. 9:5, and the Apostle Paul, who certainly was a great missionary, a true Christian, and a faithful teacher, had possessions of his own. Onesiphorus and Philemon, exemplary Christians, both were wealthy men. We Christians may hold possessions, we Christians may marry, we may enlist in the army or the navy or the air force, we may engage in business, we may become government officials, and still remain Christians. It is a foolish delusion to imagine that life in a cloister will save us from sin. God delivered Luther from this and other delusions; he married, owned property, and thus showed the world the model of a true Christian home. Was Luther's home therefore a gloomy place? Far from it. It was the abode of happy, blessed people. What joyous festivals were celebrated there! What glad days that family of father, mother, and children enjoyed!

What was it that produced this cheer? It was God's Word. It was the same thing that caused the Virgin Mary to say: "My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior."

That is also the source of our joy and happiness as we enter a new year. Certainly there will be a cross to bear, even as a sword pierced through the soul of Mary. But the almighty God will support us, the wise God will guide us, the merciful God will protect us, the gracious God will deliver us from all evil. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Therefore we Christians enter the new year with that song of confidence and joy:

My God hath all things in His keeping,
He is the ever faithful Friend;
He grants me laughter after weeping,
And all His ways in blessings end.

President Truman Gives "Go" Sign

Notes on an Interview by LAWRENCE MEYER, St. Louis

"Mr. President, may we quote you as saying that the people of our Church should be encouraged to gather food and clothing for the starving and freezing peoples of Europe with the assurance that channels for forwarding these will be opened in the near future?"

"Most assuredly you may quote me. I do not want one single human being in Europe to die because of lack of food or clothing. Upon the Christians of our country rests the responsibility to help alleviate the sufferings in Europe."

That was the gist of an interview with the President of the United States by your commissioners to Europe, Dr. J. W. Behnken and Dr. L. Meyer, and Mr. Herbert Waltke. Mr. Herbert Waltke of St. Louis, who has been of great service to our Church in our Government contacts for relief in Europe, had arranged the interview. It was a distinct privilege and pleasure to sit down thirty minutes with President Truman and discuss with him our findings on the great need for food, clothing, and spiritual relief in Europe.

The President is well informed on European affairs. To a Christian it is a special source of comfort to see how seriously the responsibilities of his office weigh upon the President. One of his first remarks was: "Without God we can do nothing." The implications of the destructive powers of the atomic

bomb place a responsibility upon him for the future welfare of mankind greater than which have never rested upon the shoulders of any one man. To know that the President of our country takes these burdens to his Lord in prayer is cause for hope that the in-

Ruins of Church at Ochten, Holland
Fit symbol of European Christianity after the war

calculable destructive powers which mankind has now called forth will be used for the benefit rather than for the annihilation of civilization.

The President was keenly interested in the findings of your commissioners on the physical and spiritual needs of the peoples of Europe. When we outlined to him our plans for physical relief and stressed the necessity of Christian literature, of which so many people of Europe have been deprived during the past decade, he said: "The one thing that can bring peace and stability again to Europe is the Bible. I shall most certainly do everything possible to facilitate the work of the churches of America in their program of physical and spiritual rehabilitation."

The President looked well and rested in spite of his heavy program. There is something about him which immediately makes you feel relaxed and at home in his presence. His attitude to your problem is one of sympathetic understanding. He is a Christian humanitarian, and, surely, if the world ever needed Christian leaders to counterbalance the power politics in assemblies of the nations of the world, it is today.

We ask our people to make special and personal prayers for the President of our country in these days of world reconstruction.

Appeal to the President

(On Dec. 14, after their return from Europe, Dr. J. W. Behnken and Dr. L. Meyer had a half hour's audience with President Harry S. Truman. At the close of the interview, Dr. Behnken left with the President the following appeal, summarizing the purpose of the visit of our representatives.)

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN

HONORABLE SIR:

Your kind approval of a trip to Europe by a commission representing all Lutherans in America for the purpose of making a religious survey was deeply appreciated. Dr. Lawrence Meyer and I traveled extensively in the countries rocked to their very foundations by the destructive forces of war. Other members of the committee are now in Europe. In fulfillment of a promise made to you I desire to render a report of our independent survey. Because some of our observations and contacts have convinced us that certain problems are of such immediate urgency, I have hastened home and requested the privilege to place a brief report before you.

Our military authorities received us most cordially. We enjoyed the distinct privilege of a conference with General Dwight D. Eisenhower. We had brief sessions with General Brown of USFET in Frankfurt and General Echols in Berlin. The kindness of these men expedited our journeys.

We consulted the military, the Military Government, UNRRA, and many German civilian pastors. We traveled to Frankfurt, Stuttgart, Augsburg, Munich, Nuernberg, Erlangen, Wuerzburg, Hannover, Berlin, Paris, Mulhouse, Geneva, and many other towns and cities.

Mr. President, you have seen the physical destruction in Berlin, and it is not necessary to attempt any word description of the indescribable. Suffice it to say that the ghastly sights of ruined cities continue to haunt a person. Involuntarily the frightening question leaps to your lips, What if that were Washington, or New York, or Chicago, or Kansas City, or any of our American cities? — Thank God that in His boundless mercy He spared us!

A Most Urgent Need

Europe's immediate need is not the rebuilding of its cities, the repair of its blasted bridges, the rehabilitation of its homes and business houses, the restoration of its economy, not even the reconstruction of its bombed-out church buildings. To us it seems that the paramount need is physical aid to the 10—16 million refugees. Numerous sources reveal that the most desperate need of all exists among the refugees and expellees in eastern Germany. These people have fled from, or have been driven out of, Poland, East Prussia, Silesia, Czechoslovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, etc. We met two Polish pastors, who were but examples of millions of people. They were citizens of Russia until 1918. Until 1939 Poland claimed them as citizens. When Hitler swept through Poland in 1939, he issued a decree that they were citizens of Germany. These poor people have been made a political football.

Most of these refugees have been deprived of everything. One pastor was sent across the border with no other possessions than the underwear he wore. Along the Oder and Neisse Rivers in Frankfurt, in Goerlitz, in Stettin, in Cottbus millions have assembled unable to move farther. People are hungry. They lack clothing and shelter. Many are sick. Refugees recently said, "Children and old people are dying like flies." Many are committing suicide in their despair. East of Berlin many have hanged themselves, and no one seems to be taking down the bodies to bury them. Dr. Dibelius of Berlin is quoted as saying that six times as many will starve and freeze to death this winter as met death on the fields of battle.

Millions Crowding into the Famine Area

Mr. President, this desperate need has moved and melted the hearts of church members in defeated Germany and impelled them to works of compassion and charity which gripped our attention and compelled us to marvel. With great determination and in a spirit of sacrifice out of the depths of their own poverty they have gathered 125 thousand tons of potatoes, much clothing, and sizable sums of money for works of charity among the suffering refugees. Dr. Gerstenmaier, the leader of the *Hilfswerk*, said: "When we view the need in the east, we feel that *we* are in Paradise." Only a person who has seen the destruction and poverty in the western section can appreciate the full import of such a statement. Pastors told us that this readiness to bring great sacrifices is miraculous. These people daily see what we saw in the cities, on the highways, in railroad stations. They see that constant stream of migrating refugees traveling in open trains, packed on open trucks or trailers, or covering the distance afoot. No one claims them. No one wants them. They crowd into the British and the American zones by the millions. The bombed-out cities cannot take them. This section from the Elbe to the French border simply cannot absorb these additional millions.

All this brings with it the burning questions: Where shall these people work? Who shall feed them? What shall they eat? Potatoes alone will not suffice. Old people must have fats and proteins. Children must have milk and sugar. It is pitiful to see children on the streets, especially refugee children, pale, hungry, and sickly. In a Frankfurt kindergarten out of 29 children 25 were undernourished. These kindergartens begged for the remaining fragments from the tables of our military, and for a while received them. Later this privilege was revoked because it was not considered safe.

The Spiritual Problem

The almost unparalleled migration of people now occurring presents enormous spiritual problems. Entire congregations have been uprooted and scattered. Refugee pastors are deeply concerned about their spiritual welfare. They are putting forth heroic efforts to give pastoral care to the

people now in spiritual distress. The pastors themselves are direly in need of aid that they may be in a position to serve. Refugee children must be given an opportunity for Christian training. Old people need comfort, encouragement, and strengthening in the most crucial and heartrending experiences of their lives if they are to be saved from the abyss of despair or even from suicide.

The Time — Now

It soon became apparent to us that far greater attention must be given to the program of spiritual reconstruction. The Scriptural declaration "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" holds true today. Webster gave expression to a basic fact when he said: "Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens." However, conditions must be remedied immediately if the Church is to carry out its important work. For six years no Bibles were printed in Germany because the Nazis forbade such printing. Millions of Bibles in the homes of people were destroyed by bombing. There is a woeful scarcity of Bibles in Germany today. This condition must be remedied.

What I have said of Bibles applies with equal force to prayer books, hymnbooks, and other devotional literature. Christian literature for the Christian training of children and young people simply does not exist. Again and again we heard the fervent plea of church leaders and ordinary pastors to provide them with Catechisms, Bible Histories, Sunday school literature, etc. If the Church is to function and accomplish what we want it to accomplish, if children and young people are to be given Christian training and brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord God, ways and means must be found to make Christian materials available at an early date.

Christianity's Common Task

While I speak primarily for my own Church, I am convinced that Christians throughout America, when fully apprised of the physical suffering and distress especially of the millions of refugees in Europe, when they hear of the heart-rending, gruesome realities which spell the untimely death of millions of children and will hasten the death of millions of old people, they will rise in a mighty effort to works of charity. The distress of hungry children, starving and freezing, will arouse compassion within millions of hearts. Enormous amounts of food and clothing will be gathered. Such an appeal will be made, and it will be overwhelmingly successful.

The Obstacles to be Removed

However, after churches and their many organizations have collected thousands of tons of food and clothing and shoes and medicine and wholesome literature, what shall they do with it all? At present obstacles hinder and obstruct such work of charity. *The transportation policies must be revised to make great shipments of provisions possible.* After these cargoes have been received at some port of entry, transportation must be provided to the areas where suffering and distress are greatest.

Mr. President, I realize that the formulation of just and equitable policies for the extremely difficult work of occupation presents some very delicate and complicated problems. However, the pathetic situation in Europe and elsewhere in the world today demands a truly humanitarian policy. Upon America, touched least of all by the ravages of war, it will depend whether or not millions will die this winter, whether or not hunger and distress will drive men to desperate riots, whether or not millions of refugees will become victims of winter. I am convinced that America's Christians desire to do their part, even at great personal sacrifices, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to provide shelter for the homeless. America's Christians will insist upon joining the ranks that with God's help they might gain a decisive victory in what Marshal Montgomery has termed "the Battle of the Winter." America's Christians want to prevent a catastrophe which would take a greater toll of human life than the war. America's Christians will petition you and Congress to *open channels for effective work of charity.* I believe that you will grant this urgent request.

J. W. BEHNKEN

The Rise and Progress of the Missouri Synod

By J. M. WEIDENSCHILLING, St. Louis, Mo.

II

The Saxon Lutherans in St. Louis

According to the plans of the Saxon immigrants, this group of Lutherans was to remain in St. Louis for a short time only until arrangements had been made to establish a colony somewhere in the virgin forests of Missouri. After their arrival in St. Louis, the leaders decided to purchase a tract of rough and wooded land in Perry County, about one hundred miles south of St. Louis. During April and May, 1839, the majority of the people journeyed on river boats down the Mississippi River to this new location.

However, about one hundred and twenty persons, mostly professional men, craftsmen, merchants, and some laborers, preferred to remain in St. Louis. Their number increased rapidly, partly through the influx of more immigrants, partly through persons living in the city who became interested in the Lutheran Church. The Saxons immediately established a parochial school for their children. A large number of children from non-Lutheran homes also attended this school. The Lutherans continued to hold their services in Christ Episcopal Church until December, 1842, when they were able to dedicate their own house of worship. In 1865 they built a new and spacious church at a cost of $113,000. The Rev. Otto Hermann Walther became their first pastor and served the congregation until his death in January, 1841. Thereupon his younger brother, the Rev. C. F. W. Walther, was called from Perry County and served the St. Louis congregation as pastor for many years. Under him the congregation was organized as Trinity Lutheran Church. In 1850 this church numbered 944 souls and had 424 children in its four parochial schools. It became the mother church of the many Lutheran congregations in St. Louis. Trinity Lutheran Church was one of the charter members of the Missouri Synod and occupies a prominent position in the history of our Synod. It is still strong and very active in building the Lord's kingdom.

The Lutheran Colony in Perry County

The leaders negotiated the purchase of 4,472 acres of land along the Obrazos River in Perry County, Mo., for which they paid $9,234.25. During the spring of 1839 most of the immigrants arrived and went to work to clear the land and erect the necessary dwellings. A few months later two additional groups of Lutheran immigrants arrived, the one group consisting of 141 stragglers from Saxony, who had come by way of New York, the other a group of 95 Lutherans from Prussia, who settled in the vicinity of the Saxon colonists. This brought the total number of Lutherans in Perry County to 847.

These immigrants were soon subjected to the trials and hardships of all new settlements of the pioneer days. Their first experiences in America were sad and bitter. Coming from Europe, they were unaccustomed to the difficult tasks of clearing the forest and tilling the stony soil. The hot climate and the primitive living conditions were extremely discomfiting. The people began to suffer from malaria and from a lack of proper food and shelter. Suffering and privations had a depressing effect on the colonists, who lacked all the comforts of their old fatherland.

Due to poor judgment, mismanagement and wastefulness, and to unwise expenditures by the emigration committee, the common treasury was soon depleted, and the settlers found themselves in the throes of dire poverty. In some cases colonists were saved from starvation by unsolicited gifts of food brought to them by Indians and American settlers. Reports of the suffering in Perry County reached Saint Louis and aroused much commiseration there. The German newspaper in Saint Louis told this sad story: "News of a deplorable character is reaching us from the Old Lutheran settlement in Perry County. The greater part of the immigrants are still without shelter. Diseases are making their appearance. Money is becoming scarce. How shall these unfortunates be fed?"

But far worse than all the physical hardships and sufferings was the great spiritual depression that weighed heavily on the hearts of the Lutherans in Perry County. It cost the people a severe battle before they came to realize why the Lord had led them into this country. Stirring events of far-reaching importance happened in the backwoods of Perry County within a month after the arrival of these people.

The defection and removal of the leader

in whom they had placed their confidence was a crushing blow to the Saxon immigrants. They felt humiliated in the eyes of the world, and despair filled their hearts. The distress and confusion of these people was indescribable. "Poverty stared them in the face. But even worse was the spiritual confusion that overtook them. They had followed a false guide. Some of the pastors began to doubt their call to the ministry. Many of the colonists felt that it was contrary to God's will that they had come to America. They doubted that they were really Christians or that the Church of Christ existed among them at all."

Clergy and people alike were harassed by serious misgivings and spiritual conflicts. The pastors were uncertain as to the validity of their ministerial acts. It is doubtful whether any other church body was confronted at its beginning with troubles as great and severe as suffered by the Saxons in Missouri. Stephan had led them to believe that without him as their leader they could not be a true visible Church.. The other ministers still did not realize that they had been deceived by false teaching. As Pastor Walther admitted later, "At that time we were still sadly deficient in the true knowledge; many and dangerous errors still darkened our souls."

These trials and experiences trained the Saxons for the task assigned to them by Divine Providence — the task of leading the American Lutheran Church back to the sound teachings of the Bible, which had once before been restored to the Church through Martin Luther. Here in Missouri the Lord had quietly prepared a man who was to lead the Lutherans back to the principles of the Reformation. "In their trouble, when they believed that they were no longer a Christian congregation but a rabble, lost for time and eternity, there appeared a man who saved them: C. F. W. Walther."

What the Saxon immigrants needed in order to restore certainty and peace to their souls was a sound knowledge of the doctrines of the Bible, particularly in regard to the doctrines of the Church and the holy ministry. Clarity was obtained in regard to these matters when Pastor Walther, in April, 1841, convincingly debated the doctrinal issues with the jurist Doctor Marbach at a public gathering of the Saxons in Altenburg, Perry County, Mo. Dr. Marbach had taken the position that the immigrants, by separating themselves from the State Church in Saxony, had ceased to be a truly Christian Church and that they were now simply a sect, without the power of the Office of the Keys. He suggested that they return to Germany in order to undo the wrong committed by the ill-advised emigration. Walther, on the other hand, in eight theses set forth the Scriptural principles regarding the Church, the authority of the ministerial office, church government, and the validity of the pastoral call. These theses Walther later amplified and expounded in his three classical essays: "The Voice of Our Church on the Question Concerning the Church and the Ministry"; "The Proper Form of an Evangelical Lutheran Congregation Independent of the State"; and "The Evangelical Lutheran Church the True Visible Church of God on Earth."'*

The Altenburg Theses are the cornerstone not only of all of Walther's writings pertaining to the doctrine of the Church and the ministry, but of the organization of the Missouri Synod itself. Since that time these important doctrines have been presented with clarity and conviction, and the restoration of these Scriptural principles has helped to reshape the teachings and church polity of other Lutheran bodies.

"More was not needed to take the weight off our consciences and to revive faith in the hearts of those who had all but despaired. It was the Easter morn of our sorely tried churches. What was then gained and won as a treasure of truth has since, through all the succeeding controversies waged by our Synod, proved itself valid."

* Translated in *Walther and the Church.*

KFUO and the Students of Concordia Seminary

Twenty-one years ago Station KFUO began its blessed service with a small transmitter in the attic of the old Seminary on South Jefferson Avenue in St. Louis. Shortly after the new Seminary had been built, the Lutheran Laymen's League erected a building on the western part of the campus which was dedicated as the new Station KFUO. Thus our broadcasting station has always been in a close relationship to our Seminary. While this has been mutually advantageous, we especially appreciate the distinct advantage which this close association has brought to our Seminary students.

The radio building and tower with its illuminated cross are a constant reminder of the Church at work, spreading the Gospel as well as possible and carrying out the divine directive to "by all means save some." The very physical plant before the eyes of our students is a daily encouragement to be on the alert when they are in the ministry in using modern implements in the work of spreading the glad tidings of salvation.

Next we think of the benefits derived from the broadcasts by those living in such close proximity and listening to its programs. Day after day our students hear radio preaching and devotions to aid them in their personal spiritual life and enjoy the excellent musical programs, the news immediately off the wires, and the variety of Christian materials which our station offers.

Most important to us, however, is the professional help and training which the station offers to the students of the Seminary. At its microphones many of our men find opportunity to practice and develop radio speaking. At the present time, for example, 5 students are serving as announcers, each from 10 to 15 hours per week; 5 are assisting in the music department; a number of men read scripts, many of which are prepared by students (the Senior classmen have a weekly preaching program); 2 serve as production assistants; from 3 to 6 as organists; a number of talented students serve as soloists or in quartets, octets, musical organizations, or as pianists and accompanists, etc. KFUO stimulates interest in, and offers opportunity for, cultivating and presenting sacred music.

The Seminary has inaugurated credit courses in radio. The preliminary course is in "Fundamentals in Radio Broadcasting for the Pastor." The course is offered in the department of Practical Theology. The Graduate School offers "Radio Evangelism!" Further courses are in the planning stage.

When we consider all the advantages accruing to our students from having our "Gospel Voice" located on the campus of our Seminary, where its facilities can be used to counsel them for actual radio work in behalf of the Church when they are in the holy ministry, we have reason to be grateful to our Lord for so directing the location of our Station. KFUO is an invaluable laboratory to us at the Seminary. Its director, staff, and experience are most helpful guides in preparing our future ministers to use the radio most advantageously in building the Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May God's rich blessing continue upon KFUO.

LOUIS J. SIECK
President, Concordia Seminary

Laymen's Work in Australia

The South Australia District has officially recognized the Lutheran Men's Association as an auxiliary body of Synod. The Lutheran Boy Scouts recently received the approval of the pastors' committee (which has investigated the matter at length). This movement, though affiliated with the Boy Scouts Headquarters, will afford opportunities for loyal service to our Church and country. Similar facilities are offered in the formation for Girls' Guides groups. In recent months our Association has also joined the Literary Societies' Union in South Australia and is taking a keen interest in the program of debates in which eleven other bodies are represented. The Association is also considering ways and means of encouraging the re-opening of Lutheran schools, this most important branch of our Church's future, and possibly the provision of a scholarship at Concordia can be undertaken to encourage young people to take up a teaching career.

A. H. LINDNER
in *Australian Lutheran*

Our New District Presidents

The Rev. Charles A. Behnke, the new President of the Eastern District, is a native of Chicago, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Behnke. He received his basic training in a Christian home and the parish school of St. John's Church (Dr. H. H. Succop and Rev. Paul Sauer). He completed the preparatory course at Concordia College, Milwaukee, in 1910

Charles Behnke Herbert Berner

and was graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1913.

His first charge was in the Bitter Root Valley, Mont., where he served as traveling missionary until the end of 1917. On Jan. 13, 1918, he was installed as pastor of St. Mark's Church, Rochester, New York. In August, 1918, he entered the holy estate of matrimony with Miss Frieda L. Neumann of Grace Church, Chicago. This marriage has been blessed with two daughters, Mrs. C. E. Sears and Miss Lois Behnke.

In 1920 Pastor Behnke began to serve the institutions of Rochester in addition to his parish duties. The project expanded to such proportions that the Rochester Lutheran Mission Society was organized in order to meet the growing demands. Pastor Behnke was elected Director of Institutional Missions; he also was appointed county chaplain at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium. When the society joined the Associated Lutheran Charities Conference, he took an active interest in its large work. He became a member of the executive board and later secretary of the conference. At present he is chairman of the national committee on institutional and city missions. He has lectured and written extensively on various phases of pastoral therapy.

Meanwhile he was also elected to positions of responsibility in the Eastern District, such as editor of the Eastern District Bulletin, secretary of the Church Extension Board, Visitor, and Vice-President. Twice he has served as essayist. He is the co-author of a book of Lenten sermons, entitled *From Tragedy to Triumph.*

The Rev. Herbert William Berner, fifth child of Theodore and Louise Berner, was born Aug. 17, 1910, near Rockwell City, Iowa, attended the rural grade school and the parish school of Immanuel Church, Rockwell City, where he was also confirmed. He received his training for the ministry at Concordia College, St. Paul, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating in 1934. After his graduation he assisted Pastor A. H. Janke in Sioux City, teaching the lower grades of his parish school and serving a mission station at Lawton, Iowa. From December, 1934, to April, 1939, he served St. John's at Ireton, and then accepted a call to Wall Lake, Iowa. He was the president of the Iowa West Walther League District 1940 to 1943, Stewardship Secretary of the Iowa District West, 1942 to 1945, and became the District President in August, 1945. He married in August, 1934, Miss Ada Schaefer of Rockwell City. They have two sons, Herbert, Jr., and Milton.

The Rev. Carl Fickenscher, newly elected President of the California and Nevada District, was born fifty-four years ago in Aurora, Ill. He attended the parish school of St. Paul's Church in that city until he entered our Milwaukee Concordia in 1904. He graduated from that institution six years later and from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1913.

His first call came from Western Canada, where he served several mission stations from Blueberry, a few miles west of Edmonton, as his headquarters. In December, 1916, he became the first resident pastor of Trinity Church, Sacramento, Calif.

He has served the California and Nevada District for many years as a member of its Board for Christian Education and also as Vice-President. Pastor and Mrs. Fickenscher, the former Lilly Bernthal of St. Louis, have five children. Three of their four sons are in the service of our country, two of them overseas.

The Rev. Paul M. Freiburger was born in Chicago, Ill., June 23, 1899. He was baptized by Pastor J. E. A. Mueller of St. Luke's and confirmed by Pastor Karl

Carl Fickenscher Paul M. Freiburger

Schmidt of St. James'. He attended Christian day schools in Chicago, our Milwaukee Concordia, 1912—1918, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He did supply work for two years, teaching school at Wolcottsville, N. Y., and at Douglas, N. Dak., and was installed Sept. 23, 1923, at Tolley, N. Dak., in a mission parish covering three counties, serving Tolley, Sherwood, Antler, Donnybrook, Mohall, and Kenmare. Since 1929 he holds the pastorate at Billings, Mont.

He headed two Walther League districts, four terms in North Dakota and four more in Montana, besides acting as camp dean and lecturer, editor of District bulletins, and Christian Knowledge chairman.

He has been instrumental in bringing the Lutheran Hour to Montana stations, on occasion "ghost-voicing" for Dr. Maier on Billing's KGHL. He contributes the "Incentives" column to the *Christian Parent* magazine, was Stewardship Secretary for the North Dakota and Montana District since 1942.

He was elected as the first President of the Montana District, which was organized at Wahpeton, N. Dak., May 23, 1945.

He was united in marriage with Miss Milda Brelje of Bismarck, N. Dak., in 1930. They have three children, Lois, Ruth, and Carl.

The Rev. Elfred L. Roschke, the new President of the Western District, was born Mar. 27, 1896, at Freistatt, Mo. He is the youngest son of the sainted Rev. John E. Roschke and his wife Bertha (nee Jungkuntz). His paternal grandfather, Edward Roschke, came to this country with the Saxons in 1839 and served as a teacher of old Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Louis for nearly forty years. His grandmother on the maternal side was the sister of Professor Gottlieb Schaller of Concordia Seminary.

After attending the Christian day school in his father's congregation at Freistatt, Pastor Roschke studied at St. Paul's College, Concordia, Mo., and at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating in 1919.

His first charge was in the Ozarks of Missouri, at Bourbon and Elmot. Here he served as pastor and teacher for a little more than three years and then accepted the call to Hope Church at Saint Louis. Under the blessings of God he was privileged to see a small mission congregation develop into a strong church with more than 1,300 communicant members, a day school of 200 children, and a Sunday school of more than 500.

He also served the church at large as president and field secretary of the Missouri District of the Walther League and as president and publicity director of the Lutheran Publicity Organization of Saint Louis. For about two years he was a member of the Foreign Missions Board of Synod. He was secretary and chairman of the Home Missions Board of the Western District for nearly 17 years, and for the same length of time he has been a member and of late the chairman of the Synodical Board for Young People's Work.

He married Miss Mae Groh at Freistatt, Mo., in 1921. They have two daughters and one son.

The Rev. Oscar Adelbert Sauer was born near South Bend, Ind., Dec. 15, 1888. He was graduated from our Fort Wayne Concordia in 1909 and from the St. Louis Seminary in 1912. He first served the congregations in Michigan City, Otis, and Westville, Ind. Since February, 1921, he is the pastor of Bethlehem Congregation in Richmond, Va. Under his leadership a school and parish house was built in 1924, and in 1931 the congregation dedicated its beautiful church. He served the Eastern District as Visitor, 1927—1938, and as First Vice-President, 1931—1938. Upon the death of President Verwiebe in 1938 he served as President of the Eastern

E. L. Roschke O. A. Sauer

District until the 1939 convention, at which time the Southeastern District was formed, and he was elected First Vice-President and member of the Board of Directors, serving chiefly as chairman of the committee on finances. At the June convention he was elected to succeed President Spilman, who retired. Since 1936 he is serving also as a member of Synod's Army and Navy Commission.

In 1913 Pastor Sauer was married to Beata C. Thieme, a daughter of Pastor Thieme in South Bend, Ind. They have three children, Enno, Lester, and Virginia Anne.

The Rev. Arthur H. Werfelmann, son of the late Rev. Ernst and Mrs. Marie Werfelmann, was born on Jan. 6, 1887, in Chicago. He received his elementary education in Christ Lutheran School of said city, then entered Quinta at Concordia, Milwaukee, in 1901, and the Seminary at St. Louis in 1906. He assisted his father for one year prior to his graduation in 1910.

A. H. Werfelmann

His first charge was a mission field in northeastern Montana, a territory of some 200 square miles. These were the horse-and-buggy days, when even distances of 90 miles one way were covered to bring to isolated Christians the Word of Life. After five and a half years of pioneer mission work, Pastor Werfelmann accepted a call to Lindenwood, in the Northern Illinois District. Subsequently he held pastorates at Glenview and Hinsdale, Ill., and since 1939 is the senior pastor of Saint John's Congregation at Elgin, Ill.

For the past fourteen years he has served the Northern Illinois District in various official capacities. In 1931 he was appointed Visitor. From 1933 to 1939 he was a member of the District Mission Board, serving as chairman the last four years. In 1942 he was elected Second Vice-President of the District, and one year ago he became First Vice-President. At the recent convention of the Northern Illinois District in June, 1945, when the former President, Dr. E. T. Lams, after nine years of service asked to be relieved because of ill health, the brethren elected the new incumbent to this office.

Miss Beatrice Duever of Chicago became his wife in 1911 and subsequently the mother of his five daughters and three sons, two serving as chaplains in the Army and the third as lieutenant at Camp Hood, Tex. This constitutes the fourth generation of Werfelmanns serving our beloved Missouri Synod.

Herman W. Bartels

The Rev. Herman W. Bartels is a thorough "Missourian." His cradle stood in St. John's parsonage, St. Louis, where he was born March 16, 1877. His parents, Pastor and Mrs. H. J. Bartels, routed him for graduation from our St. Louis Seminary in 1900 via St. John's parochial school, Walther College, and our Milwaukee Concordia.

His first charges were congregations of the Western District: Zion, Poplar Bluff, Mo.; Trinity, Altheim, Mo.; and First Lutheran, Fort Smith, Ark. In June, 1920, he accepted a call to the pastorate of Grace Church, Cleveland, Ohio, an English District congregation. On account of shifting population Grace Church in 1927 moved from East 55th Street and Lexington Avenue to its present $368,000 English Gothic church in Cleveland Heights.

Pastor Bartels served as Visitor in the Western and in the English Districts and as chairman of the Lake Erie Conference for a number of years. Through the years he has been a regular contributor to the literature of our Synod and is a co-author of Synod's 1944 book of Lenten sermons, *From Tragedy to Triumph.* He was elected President of the English District at the convention held in Detroit, June 19 to 22.

He is the father of four daughters and two sons, having been joined in marriage to Wilhelmina M. Battefeld in 1902.

Pastor E. H. Bohrer was born near Menno, S. Dak., Feb. 15, 1899, attended the State schools of North Dakota, Concordia College, St. Paul, did supply work in and near Nelson, B. C., 1921—1922, and graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1923.

He was installed in October, 1923, in Montana as a missionary along the Great Northern R. R., but returned for a postgraduate course at Concordia Seminary late in 1924. In March, 1925, he was installed in Zion Church, Pinckneyville, Ill. Five years later he was called to his present congregation, Immanuel of Murphysboro, where he was installed in June, 1930. For sixteen years he also taught the Christian day schools at Pinckneyville and Murphysboro.

E. H. Bohrer

During his pastorate in the Southern Illinois District he served for six years on the District Board of Missions, holding the position of chairman for the past three years. For a number of years he also was the chairman of the District Pastoral Conference. He was elected to the presidency of the District at the convention held at New Gehlenbeck, October, 1945.

Pastor Bohrer married Miss Lillie Mueller of Zion Church, St. Louis, June 3, 1925. One daughter, Eunice, is at present training at the Lutheran Hospital in Saint Louis; a second, Dorothy, is attending St. John's College, Winfield, Kans.; Helen, Mary Carol, and John are at home.

For Christ and Humanity

Our Church in Service to a World Stricken by War

Lutheran Commission for Prisoners of War

The work of the Lutheran Commission for Prisoners of War has had no letdown among the German prisoners. At best 11,540 of sick and maimed, along with a contingent of skilled workers, have been evacuated so far. Throughout the country, war prisoner work camps have multiplied, and more civilian pastors have entered into the service of bringing the Word of Life to the prisoners in these camps.

It is true that a majority of these German prisoners have been so nazified that they have no ear for the Gospel of Christ Jesus. However, there is still a surprisingly large nucleus of Christians of Catholic and Lutheran faith. Since in these camps the Nazi grip has relaxed, the Christian men have greater courage to attend the church services. Almost without exception the many reports coming into our office tell of the marvelous blessings bestowed upon the Gospel message brought to the imprisoned.

Besides the Lutheran chaplains we now have the names of 173 pastors — U. L. C. A., A. L. C., and Missouri Synod — preaching in these camps. Our pastors conduct church services, Bible classes, and also lectures. According to actual reports there are some 14,000 hearers Sunday after Sunday. Considering that so many Christian men cannot attend regularly on account of work demands, we can readily say that there are 25,000 hearers belonging to the pastors' prison congregations. Add to these the attendance in the services directed by 41 Lutheran chaplains and of the 130 imprisoned German pastors directly influenced by the work of the Lutheran Commission for Prisoners of War, we can safely say that the Christian prisoners of war affected by our mission number 50,000 here in the United States. Our Lutheran chaplains and civilian pastors are preaching in 454 camps and hospitals.

In Europe our chaplains and their prison assistants report even much larger attendances. The imprisoned men are virtually flocking to their services. Considering the stack of literature sent to the European camps by our New York Book Depository and the letters of Christian gratitude received from those sources, we have a right to think in terms of 100,000 whom the Lord blesses through our services by means of the spoken and written Word.

You will be pleased to know that a former missionary of the U. L. C. of Japan, the Rev. J. M. T. Winther, is now preaching to Japanese prisoners. The Japanese prisoners will be evacuated very soon. However, in the meantime we shall put forth every effort to tell them of the salvation which is in Christ Jesus. We are also in correspondence with camps containing Italian prisoners in an effort to furnish them with Bibles and Catechisms.

During September alone we have instructed our New York Depository to supply 45 chaplains in the European area — in Germany, France, Holland, and Italy — with religious material. The American Bible Society has filled our orders during the past year and one half to the extent of 21,881 Bibles and New Testaments, all of which is being appreciated by the German prisoners now possessing them.

T. W. STRIETER, *Director*

September 28

Frankfurt Service Center

Sunday, Nov. 11, witnessed a wonderful occurrence. It was the dedication of a Lutheran service center in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. It so happened that Dr. L. Meyer and the undersigned were privileged to be present for this joyful event.

In Frankfurt the American Army of Occupation has its headquarters. In the very nerve center of this erstwhile busy and beautiful but now bombed and demolished city our Church now has a service center. The location is ideal, right across from the large railroad station, opposite the Hindenburg Platz. Tens and hundreds of thousands of people frequent this section daily and cannot but notice the place with the sign: "Lutheran Service Center — Your Home Away from Home."

Ten weeks ago also this place was still filled with ugly debris as a result of a severe bombing, but Dr. H. Dierks and Chaplain Kohn selected and secured a part of this building as an ideal location for our purpose. Workmen were engaged to remove the debris, to repair the damage and to transform this seeming wreckage into a most attractive Lutheran service center. With the permission of the military

Chaplain and Veteran

Major Doege of the Chaplains' Corps stationed at Camp Edwards, Mass., and T/4 Wollenberg, a battle-scarred veteran of the Pacific, now a patient at the Camp Edwards Convalescent Hospital. Before enlisting as chaplain, when president of our Bronxville, N. Y., Concordia, Major Doege handed a diploma to young Wollenberg, who later joined the tanks and was wounded in the battle for Okinawa

authorities and with the kind and considerate assistance rendered by these men, obstacles and difficulties were overcome and though "a thousand and one" details caused many "headaches" the center could be dedicated on Armistice Day.

Upon entering the spacious room a person is greeted immediately by "Old Glory," hung appropriately on the wall. This at once reminds one of our homeland. Fine comfortable chairs, a lounge, bookshelves, tables for games, etc., impress a person that this is homelike indeed. But when tables are removed and chairs properly placed and the curtains are drawn aside, a beautiful altar greets your eye, and you are in your church away from home.

Dr. H. Dierks spoke an appropriate dedicatory prayer and served as liturgist for the service. Chaplain A. A. Katt delivered the sermon on the topic "Recreation and Worship." General Brown was present at the service and brought a word of greeting and best wishes for the armed forces. A letter of congratulation and greetings from the President of the United States was read. The undersigned spoke a few words for our Synod. About 140 men and women were in attendance at the morning service. Twenty-five came again at 7:30 P. M. to attend a Bible class. During the day 370 men and women from our armed forces visited the center.

Thank God that our Church has been given the opportunity to render this service! May God graciously bless the work done at the center! May it fulfill its purpose to provide for the recreational and, above all, the spiritual needs of our men and women in the Army of Occupation.

J. W. BEHNKEN

Meetings with the Missouri Synod

The pastors of the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America, Green Bay Circuit, and the pastors of the Missouri Synod serving in the same territory have held joint pastoral conferences regularly for more than two years. The secretary has been authorized to send information to the *Lutheran Herald*, thus bringing it "A la portée de tout le monde."

Two meetings were held during the year 1943, beginning Oct. 11. Four meetings were held during the year 1944, and three meetings have been conducted this current year, with the fourth scheduled for Dec. 8. The conferences are held in the Y. M. C. A. building at Green Bay, Wis., every second month except during the summer. A private dining room is provided for the fellowship lunch between the forenoon and the afternoon sessions.

The largest numbers that can be expected to attend are eighteen Missouri pastors and eleven N. L. C. A. pastors. The largest number in attendance of each group has been fifteen and nine. Average attendance for all meetings has been a little more than ten Missouri pastors and a little more than six N. L. C. A. pastors. The conference is not open to any other group of pastors.

The sessions are opened with reading from the Bible and prayer, which is spoken by the chairman of the meeting. The programs consist of essays on subjects adopted by the conference, and the subjects are discussed by those present. The same theme may then be presented in a new essay at the next meeting. Some subjects are discussed for a whole year with the desire to come to a definite conclusion.

Essays and topics which have been presented and discussed are as follows:

(1) Inspiration of the Bible. (2) The Youth Problem. (3) Prayer Fellowship. (4) Can We Have Pulpit and Altar Fellowship with Orthodox and Heterodox Churches and Denominations? (5) Why the Two Statements in The Madison Agreement? (6) The Lodges. (7) The Power of the Keys, Respecting the Disciplinary Action of Another Congregation Not Affiliated with Us. (8) Selective Fellowship. (9) Prayer Fellowship in Accordance with the New Testament.

The program for December will be discussion of three continued subjects:

(1) Doctrinal Affirmation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, and of the American Lutheran Church. (2) Selective Fellowship. (3) Prayer Fellowship in Accordance with the New Testament.

A certain amount of time will be given to each subject.

OLAF L. OLSEN, *Secretary*
R. 2, Pulaski, Wis.

The Lutheran Herald, Dec. 18, 1945

From a Pocket Notebook

In one of her recent columns Dorothy Thompson opened a rejoinder with the following sentence: "It takes an equable temper to answer charges that disregard or misrepresent everything one has ever said." This sounds as though Dorothy had been editing a conservative church paper for a conservative church. . . . Other department stores are taking a leaf out of the book of The Fair Store in Chicago, whose advertisement featuring the Bible caused so much comment. In Tulsa the leading department store, Brown-Dunkin, has installed a very notable Christmas window display. The same store has devoted several full-page advertisements to appropriate Bible passages and Scripture quotations. . . . "For former favor ceases and mortals are forgetful," Pindar (quoted in Apology, *Triglotta*, p. 451). . . . Writes R. G. from Milwaukee: "I will now destroy my files on 'Treatment of Returning Veterans.' I have found the returning boys absolutely normal, requiring no skillful treatment." . . . Just as the Rev. John G. Garth, review editor of the Charlotte *North Carolina Observer*, writes a two-column review (regular newspaper columns) of *God and the Cosmos*, the publisher informs us that the second edition is sold out. A new one is in preparation. Lorry Meyer was told by the Archbishop of Finland: "Certainly we know the Missouri Synod. The study of **God and the Cosmos** is required at our Theological Seminary." . . . For a devotional treatment of the Communion liturgy there is B. von Schenk's *"Oh, Come Let Us Worship,"* a publication of the Atlantic District Stewardship Committee. . . . The *Rotarian* magazine has featured Piney Woods School down in Mississippi and its founder, Lawrence C. Jones, quoted in *Reader's Digest* for November. We have been down at Piney Woods, and the half has not been told. . . . Andy Pafko, a Chicago National League ballplayer, is a member of the Slovak Synod. . . . Our congregations in Catawba County, N. C., have a committee to organize a high school. A two weeks' radio Bible school has been sponsored by the Laymen's League. . . . Either the Peekskill, N. Y., *Evening Star* has a nose for human interest stories, or Our Redeemer Church and its pastor, the Rev. Gary E. Germann, in transforming a hundred-year-old mansion into a modern church had done something unusual; or both. But it takes something like genius to start a new church and preserve a historic landmark for the community at the same time. . . . St. Matthew's (the Rev. E. Norden, pastor) of East Los Angeles carries a quarter-page in the *Tribune* with portraits of the pastor and a dozen prominent workers. . . . Every week end spent in Detroit leaves us under the impression that our churches in this great metropolis are making the pace for the rest of the Synod. For instance, last summer 25 vicars canvassed the city. In one area 765 unchurched families were found. Result: We have started five new congregations. . . . Prof. A. O. Leutheusser, formerly professor of Walther College, then for many years in the St. Louis public school system, now retired, has been made Assistant Professor of English at Washington University. Professor Leutheusser has served on our Board for Higher Education. . . . The

Service Men's Wives are an organization of Pilgrim Church, St. Louis (the Revs. Doerffler and Kieninger, pastors). . . . For a very serviceable visitor's card given to strangers at St. Luke's Church, Chicago, address the pastor, the Rev. A. R. Kretzmann. . . . The 25th anniversary booklet of Trinity, North Bergen, N. J., shows what can be done in off-set printing of typewritten copy and pictures mounted where they look best. You have no idea. Send 25 cents for sample to the Rev. Arthur Hawlicheck. . . . The Rev. W. H. Meyer, President of the Kansas District, encourages Bible classes and Walther League societies to study the Doctrinal Affirmation.

G.

AMONG OUR CHURCHES and SCHOOLS

Diamond Jubilee of Dr. C. F. Graebner

At a pastoral conference held at Hectorville, South Australia, on Sept. 5, 1945, the diamond jubilee of the Rev. Dr. C. F. Graebner was observed. Words of congratulation were spoken by Pastor Koehne for the Adelaide congregation, Dr. H. Hamann for Concordia Seminary, Dr. C. Hoopmann for the Church in Australia, Pastor Lutze for the College Board. This is the first time that a minister in our Australian Church could celebrate the diamond jubilee of his ordination. Since 1903 Dr. Graebner has been training a ministry for a whole continent, including the men, with the one exception of Dr. Hamann, who are teaching at Concordia Seminary in Unley.

Australian Lutheran

Fall Quarter Graduation at River Forest

Another accelerated class at River Forest graduated on Nov. 19. It was the fourth in the school year 1945. Twelve graduates received the synodical four-year diploma and the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education, and one the synodical three-year diploma. All have accepted teaching assignments in widely scattered areas throughout Synod.

On account of the synodical need for teachers and in harmony with wartime Government regulations, Concordia Teachers College introduced a full accelerated program early in 1942. This involved cutting the twelve-week fall, winter, and spring quarters to eleven weeks each and adding a required eleven-week Summer Quarter.

Acceleration was a wartime measure and with the consent of the synodical boards has now been discontinued.

ARTHUR KLINCK, *President*

From Veterans to Seminarians

(The students of Concordia Seminary received this greeting from the U. S. Veterans Hospital at Jefferson Barracks.)

Thanks, Boys, for all the times we had together, and thanks for bringing the words of God to all of us patients at this hospital. We all thank you for all the help you gave to Rev. Holls and for bringing the only word of our Redeemer to help us. In general, thanks for everything. You're doing wonderful work for the Lord! Keep it up! Yours through the Lord and all His glory.

From all the Vets at this hospital,

LYLE JAMES BELL

Representing the hospital and all the boys that can't tell you personally. Thanks.

Valparaiso Social Work Institute

More than 120 social workers from 18 States met at Valparaiso University Sept. 10-14, 1945, to discuss the question: "What is the responsibility of the Church to society today, and is the Church meeting its responsibility?" Answers were presented by Director E. Buckley Glabe of the Minnesota Children's Friend Society, President H. F. Wind of the Associated Lutheran Charities, Dr. C. F. Lindberg, head of Valparaiso's Department of Education and Psychology, Prof. Ethel Verry of the University of Chicago, and the Rev. Philip Akre of the Minneapolis Council of Social Agencies. The main speaker at the Institute dinner was Dr. Louis J. Sieck.

LOIS SOHN

Graduation at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill.

First row, left to right: Norma Mueller; Prof. Wilfred Kruse, registrar; Dr. Arthur Klinck, president; Dr. Albert Maurer, marshal; Esther Seegert. Second row: Richard Keb, Milton Eggers, Vernon Wilharm, James Engel, Raymond Bauer, Ralph Fiedler. Third row: Melvin Luebke, Frederick Trinklein, Paul Schwarting, Armin Grams, Roland Eggerding

Lutheran Publicity Organization of Greater St. Louis

The St. Louis Lutheran is a new paper appearing in St. Louis since early in October, 1945. It is the latest venture of the Lutheran Publicity Organization and is edited by a board consisting of the Rev. H. W. Gockel, the Rev. E. J. Saleska, librarian of Concordia Seminary, Harold Flachsbart, Gilbert Degenhardt, Emil Echweizer, and O. A. Dorn, with the Rev. Gerhardt Mahler as managing editor. It "has for its task the factual, frank, and friendly dissemination of information for the purpose of building prestige, reducing misunderstanding, and presenting a running account of stewardship." It is filling a long-felt want and has shown itself a splendid medium of publicity of Lutheran activities in St. Louis and vicinity.

Karl Kurth

The L. P. O. has also used the secular press to publish periodically brief positive statements of Biblical doctrines in a style that compels attention and has arranged large Lutheran gatherings, the last of these on Nov. 19, when 8,000 people assembled to hear Chaplain Commander J. Floyd Dreith speak at a Thanksgiving Victory Rally in the Convention Hall.

The L. P. O. came into existence in 1917 under the leadership of Dr. Louis J. Sieck, then pastor of Zion Church in St. Louis and now the president of Concordia Seminary. It chose for its motto, "Your faith is spoken of throughout the world." It began its work by placing Lutheran literature in libraries and distributing the book "Four Hundred Years" to all the Protestant churches in St. Louis. Later it sponsored Lutheran mass meetings, such as the Quadricentennial of the Reformation, packed the Arena at the Quadricentenary of Luther's Catechism in 1929, and staged a pageant of the Augsburg Confession anniversary in 1930. The clippings from the secular press in the archives of the Concordia Historical Institute since 1917 prove that the public had ample opportunity to become acquainted with our Church. The present chairman of the L. P. O. is the Rev. Karl Kurth.

KARL KRETZMANN

Gamma Delta Convention

A total of 175 Gamma Deltans, representing chapters from North Dakota to Alabama, attended the first postwar convention of Gamma Delta, an international

association of Lutheran students, at Iowa State College, Ames, Nov. 9—11.

In an unforgettable opening service, at Memorial Lutheran Chapel, Student Pastor Scheips of the University of Michigan emphasized the Christ who had provided the motto for this convention: "Hearken unto Me, and understand." In the annual memorial service on Saturday morning, Chaplain Wiese indicated the pathway to eternal life and to a better world. From his own familiar pulpit Student Pastor Mueller, on Sunday morning, pointed out the glory and power of Christ's authoritative Word. At the session of the model Bible class earlier in the day, Student Pastor Wuerffel of the University of Iowa cited great statements of Jesus which are apropos for our day. At the final session the delegates were told that heaven will be populated and the world transformed in the measure in which men and women of influence and power release their Spirit-imparted beliefs. The impressive candlelight services were enhanced by harp music deftly played by Marilyn Mueller of Theta Chapter. The fine student choir of Memorial Lutheran Chapel was heard at the service on Sunday morning.

The gala banquet on Saturday night was punctuated with a stimulating message by Richard, "Dick," Siebert, erstwhile first baseman of the Philadelphia baseball club in the American League, currently with the St. Louis Browns. "We have too long kept our potent religion a secret," the major leaguer told his attentive audience of college men and women, and charged these future leaders to share what they possess and bring their religious convictions to bear in the home, in business, in industry, and in politics.

Chief items of business on the convention calendar were: the Gamma Delta Memorial Fund, a project to raise $10,000 for a memorial chapel at the University of Alabama; a resolution encouraging the Synodical Lutheran Union Committee to continue its work toward the removal of obstacles in the way of Lutheran unity; the resolution to stress Bible study in the various chapters; and the resolution to direct college seniors to the Lutheran Collegiate Association, the approved group of college graduates.

The following officers were elected: Louis Rush, Wayne University, president (re-elected); Gertrude Breckman, University of Minnesota, vice-president; Gladys Shipstead, Northwestern University, secretary; Alvin Walz, University of Iowa, treasurer.

Chicago, Ill. R. W. HAHN

Lutheran Church Charities Fund of Northern Illinois

The Greater Chicago area is happy to own two major charitable organizations. The first of these, "The Lutheran Charities of Chicago," has been brought to your attention before (LUTHERAN WITNESS, Aug. 28, 1945, p. 285). It is a service agency of 22 charitable institutions of various synodical affiliation in the Chicago area.

"The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, Charities Fund" serves this same region in another way. It is the collecting agency for 115 member congregations in Northern Illinois. Its purpose it to solicit financial support for charitable and educational institutions affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America and to arrange for an equitable distribution of funds in accord with the needs of such organizations. It is an officially recognized fund-raising organization for the Northern Illinois District and the English District, representing the following institutions: Lutheran Child Welfare Association (Addison); Evangelical Lutheran Old Folks Home (Arlington Heights); Bethesda Lutheran Home (Watertown, Wis.); Lutheran Institute for the Deaf (Detroit, Mich); Lutheran Bureaus, Inc. (Chicago); Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, Ind.); Luther Institute (Chicago); River Forest Conordia College Commissary; and Student Employment Funds. Offices are maintained at 77 W. Washington St., Chicago, Illinois. W. C. K.

Where North Meets South in India

(See Frontispiece)

It was all Greek to Chaplain Wm. Wenger, sitting in the back row of Immanuel Church in Ambur, and no wonder, for he was a visitor at the bilingual meeting of the pastors and evangelists of our three mission districts in South India. Two languages, Tamil and Malayalam, were used at this second refresher course of our Indian pastors, who had come from various centers of our work, some as far as 400 miles away. Together with eight missionaries the 35 Indian workers met to meditate on various phases of our mission work. Among them was the senior pastor of our Indian Mission, the Rev. Mr. G. Jesudason, who had been instrumental in getting our work started in the southernmost part of India. The senior pastor of the Malayalam district, the Rev. Mr. M. Paulose, preached the opening sermon. Lectures were read in both Tamil and Malayalam by six of the missionaries, while the discussions were conducted in both languages. From the undivided attention paid to each speaker and the good fellowship that prevailed throughout the meetings it was evident that this refresher course would prove to be of great blessing to all concerned. 1945 being the year that marks the 50th anniversary of the beginning of our mission work in South India, it was fitting that the lectures stressed such points as the clarity and the authority of Scriptures, presented by the Rev. Mr. R. H. Brauer of Nagercoil, the past history of our mission, and present and future problems in our mission work. One of the problems at present confronting our churches is the organization of our Indian churches into a synod, and this problem was ably presented by the Rev. Mr. M. L. Kretzmann of Ambur. Other papers were read by the Rev. Mr. R. M. Zorn and the Rev. Mr. M. J. Lutz, both of whom spoke in the Malayalam tongue.

A common supper was held on the Kretzmanns' "lawn," followed by the showing of films on our mission work. One Saturday afternoon was spent in visiting places of interest along the Madras-Bangalore Road and terminated with a tea party at the mission bungalow in Bargur. In transporting the large number of men, our Bethesda Hospital van, known as "Absalom," played a prominent part. Open forums were held on some of the evenings, while the afternoons were devoted to sports when there was no rain.

That the blessed tie that binds us all together in Christian love had been strengthened to the furtherance of the Lord's work was the feeling of all of us as we joined in the singing of the last song, the Tamil version of "God Be with You till We Meet Again."

The picture appearing in this issue of the LUTHERAN WITNESS shows: Front row, left to right: Rev. T. Charles; Rev. K. S. Chelliah Pillai; Rev. A. S. Masillamoni; Rev. D. Dyriam; Rev. A. D. Swamidoss; Rev. S. Jesudason; Rev. M. Paulose; Rev. J. Swamidason; Rev. J. C. James; Rev. S. Savarimuttu Pillai; Rev. A. Israel; Rev. A. Perinbanayagam. Middle row: Mr. J. Gnana-

Gamma Delta's Theta Chapter, Iowa State College

Hosts to the Gamma Delta convention in Ames, Iowa, Nov. 9—11. Clarence Schlauderaff, chapter president, is seated in the front row, third from the left. At his left are Student Pastor Martin Mueller and Mrs. Mueller

muttu raj; Rev. A. Samuel; Rev. A. Asirvatham; Rev. A. Solomon; Mr. P. Silvanose; Mr. W. Daniel; Mr. P. Samuel; Mr. M. Swaminathan; Mr. K. Johannan; Mr. K. Alexander; Mr. A. Swanamoni; Mr. A. Amlanantham; Rev. S. Markose; Rev. D. Jeganathan Pillai. Top row: Rev. M. L. Kretzmann; Rev. R. H. Brauer; Rev. John G. P. Naumann; Rev. L. John; Rev. A. Manasse; Mr. P. Fernidand; Mr. M. Dhannakan; Rev. M. Daniel; Rev. K. Devasachayam; Mr. M. Abisai; Mr. R. M. Manuel; Rev. M. Philip; Rev. R. M. Zorn; Rev. C. Rittman; Rev. M. J. Lutz; Chaplain W. Wenger (Assam).

JOHN G. P. NAUMANN
Bargur, South India

A Letter from India*

MOST REVEREND AND DEAR SIR:

The God of ages has blessed the mother church and its fostered child, the Indian church so far for half a century. . . .

We thank you very heartily for all the labour of love, which you do towards our churches. . . .

The present condition of the Ambur District: There are 40 congregations with 4000 souls. There are 33 Elementary and Higher Elementary schools with Boys 1794 and Girls 740 High School 350 Boys and 234 Girls. . . .

We pray that God Almighty may stay with you and all our churches in U. S. A. wherever you may be, guide and counsel you, and help you all to be of more and more service in that noble cause of furtherance of His Kingdom in India as well as in other dark countries. Amen.

We remain ever in Christ,

A. JESUDASON

Letters from Readers

EMERITUS, BUT WIDE AWAKE

DEAR EDITOR:

I am addressing these lines to you in the hope that you may find them of sufficient constructive importance to permit their sentiment to appear in some shape or form on the pages of the WITNESS.

When one hears of an intersynodical conference in these days being frustrated because the individuals in the contemplated group could not agree about opening (or not opening) with a spoken prayer, should it not arouse concern in the hearts of Lutheran pastors as to the genuineness of their Christianity?

Surely, but a very little tact, forbearance, and Christian charity should be able to decide the matter (either pro or con). It is inconceivable that a group of Mo. Lutheran and A. L. C. pastors should permit a proposed conference to "go on the rocks" because no one was disposed or able to plead for either the one eventuality or the other.

Has the sad spectacle of a divided and re-divided (repeated *ad lib.*)* Lutheran Church with the resultant deplorable conditions of such separation not sufficiently moved the hearts of all of us to fervently desire and seek Lutheran unity?

Do we not sorely need to be urged to examine our motives and the hearts from which these emanate?

Is it not high time to implore the Lord for more grace, true piety, and genuine charity and not forever exalt our "strict adherence to Scripture"?

Slightly diverging — *must* one disputant continually be seeking some hidden and evil motive for statements made by the other?

Some of the letters of criticism and the suggestions offered in connection with the present union document miss their mark so thoroughly because of a "*borniert*" delving and searching for ulterior motives. They not only miss the mark, but involve themselves in illogical and contradictory conclusions. I must confess that one — at least — of such attempts coming into my possession just recently (four typewritten pages) is the motivating cause of this communication.

REV. H. A. SCHROEDER, *P. em.*
Champaign, Ill.

* This letter was addressed to Doctor Frederick Brand, director of our Foreign Missions, in the name of the Pirathinithi Sangam, an organization of all mission workers in the Ambur District.

* Dr. Walther felt the same impatience when he wrote in 1856: "Consider the past relations of the American Lutheran synods to each other. Each followed, according to its knowledge, sentiment, and local conditions, its own way. Instead of giving expression to the fact that they belong together and to render mutual service, each with its peculiar gifts, they separated themselves more and more and so arrived at a point of jealous tension. It appeared as if finally there would be as many parties, yes, even sects, within the Lutheran Church in America as there are synods." (In LUTHERAN WITNESS, 1945, p. 249.) — ED.

Obituary

All obituaries and death notices should be sent to Prof. W. G. Polack, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

The Rev. John Adam Fahling (d. Nov. 28, 1945), son of George and Barbara Fahling, was born June 19, 1892, at Conklin, Mich. He attended Concordia College, Milwaukee, and the St. Louis Seminary, where he graduated in 1914. He served McAllister and Wellston, Okla., from 1914 to 1920, Sawyer, Mich., 1920 to 1924, Martini Church, Hamtramck, Mich., 1924 to 1939. He then served as the executive secretary of the Detroit Lutheran Center. In 1945 he became the first resident pastor of St. Paul's in Milan, Mich., at the same time serving as promotional director of the Institute for the Deaf at Detroit and the Old Folks' Home at Monroe, Mich. He is the author of *The Life of Christ*, the *Harmony of the Gospels*, and *Behold the Savior in Sacred Art*. His passing is mourned by his wife, Clara, nee Kraft, whom he married on July 25, 1915, two daughters, his father, three brothers, and one sister. Funeral services were held in Milan on Dec. 1, with the Rev. John Hieber preaching on John 12:26, President A. Zeile speaking in behalf of the Michigan District, the Rev. F. Hertwig in behalf of the Synod, and the Rev. F. B. Fehner in behalf of the circuit and the Old Folks' Home. The burial took place at Conklin, the Rev. C. F. Lederer officiating.

JOHN M. HIEBER

The Rev. Ernst Wm. Paul (d. Nov. 30, 1945) was born Nov. 21, 1877, in Holyoke, Mass., the son of Edward Paul and Wilhelmine, nee Heinz. He was baptized by Pastor N. Soergel and confirmed in the Lutheran Church at Holyoke July 24, 1892, by the sainted August Brunn. He attended the "Gymnasium" of St. Matthew's Congregation in New York, Concordia College, Fort Wayne, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating June 10, 1901. He was called to Peace Congregation near Deshler, Ohio, where he was ordained the 12th Sunday after Trinity, 1901, by the Rev. G. F. C. Koch. He served this congregation during the more than 44 years of his ministry. July 3, 1902, he married Johanne Christine Evers. For some time Rev. Paul had suffered from diabetes. He died at the hospital at Findlay, Ohio, and was buried in the cemetery of Peace Congregation, Dec. 4. The Rev. L. M. Zehner preached in German, the Rev. George Maassel in English, and the Rev. Walter Fehner officiated at the altar and at the grave. There are left to mourn his departure his widow, two children, Martin and Amalia, two grandchildren, one brother, and one sister.

GEORGE MAASSEL

Miscellaneous

Ordinations and Installations

(Authorized by the Proper Officials)

CANDIDATES

Ordained and Installed:

Goetjen, Reinhold H., in Grace Congregation, Port Alberni, B. C., Can., by C. F. Baase, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Petrich, W. H., in Trinity Congregation, North Bergen, N. J., by C. F. Weidmann, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Peyser, S. Erik K., in St. Paul's Congregation, Westport, Conn., by H. D. Wehmeyer, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Ordained and Commissioned:

Steiner, Luther, as missionary at large in the Central Illinois District, Casey, Ill., by V. M. Keiper, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

PASTORS

Commissioned:

Block, Arthur H., as missionary at large in the Atlantic District, in Newtons Church, Newtonville, Mass., by Paul W. Brauer, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Installed:

Woelfle, John, in Grace Congregation, Mitchell, Ont., Can., by Pres. F. Malinsky, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

Beawer, A. F., in Grace Congregation, Caldwell, Idaho, by H. A. Kahle, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Raedeke, W. A., in Mount Calvary Church, Calgary, Alta., Can., as Executive Secretary of the Alberta and British Columbia District by C. Klewer, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Buchschacher, W. G., in Trinity Congregation, Waco, Tex., by R. Martin, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Hartmann, Emil C. F., in Our Savior Congregation, Cincinnati, Ohio, by W. H. Eifert, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Miller, A. F., in Mount Calvary Congregation, Calgary, Alta., Can., by P. Unterschultz, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Schaefer, O. W., as assistant pastor in Zion Congregation, Milwaukee, Wis., by Henry C. Tesch, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

FINANCIAL REPORT, Receipts February 1, 1945, to November 30, 1945

From Districts	Budget Accounts	Peace Thankoffering	Army-Navy Collection
1. Alberta & Br. Col.	$ 4,481.92	$ 19,269.40	$ 1,471.95
2. Argentine	150.00	—	—
3. Atlantic	73,714.95	—	13,061.04
4. Brazil	—	—	—
5. Calif. & Nevada	9,065.23	53,667.72	7,709.96
6. Central	240,699.10	460,587.57	58,503.10
7. Central Illinois	89,344.76	154,536.16	16,219.16
8. Colorado	9,001.11	45,631.06	2,056.33
9. Eastern	51,595.62	131,021.09	13,419.37
10. English	89,246.68	183,173.27	21,576.99
11. Iowa-East	34,200.00	105,006.45	17,070.77
12. Iowa-West	87,700.61	234,496.27	19,214.30
13. Kansas	42,696.43	149,073.90	15,157.21
14. Manitoba & Sask.	5,100.98	18,157.07	982.94
15. Michigan	223,022.99	426,610.00	46,222.85
16. Minnesota	136,089.67	287,551.56	34,929.00
17. Montana	3,994.08	17,182.26	2,185.01
18. North Dakota	15,894.64	64,207.55	6,435.30
19. Northern Illinois	186,534.74	380,822.27	55,932.04
20. Northern Nebraska	25,791.61	90,259.72	10,073.02
21. North Wisconsin	79,060.09	139,992.68	19,825.57
22. Oklahoma	10,737.27	36,643.18	3,343.16
23. Ontario	13,913.83	40,000.00	2,166.82
24. Oregon & Washington	23,383.40	109,029.44	11,487.62
25. South Dakota	8,814.81	57,812.76	6,044.16
26. Southeastern	19,778.99	57,522.72	6,845.40
27. Southern	12,058.22	57,004.50	3,737.53
28. Southern California	8,410.02	81,193.81	9,884.55
29. Southern Illinois	49,918.44	92,256.04	11,820.05
30. Southern Nebraska	31,942.94	111,350.90	12,112.80
31. South Wisconsin	140,506.00	201,516.18	27,725.19
32. Texas	28,068.21	77,110.23	16,349.93
33. Western	154,861.33	325,287.33	35,159.56
Total from Districts	$1,909,778.67	$4,207,973.09	$508,722.68
From L. L. L. Endow. Fund	46,321.94		
From Other Sources	110,924.26	15,393.72	9,714.21
GRAND TOTAL	$2,067,024.87	$4,223,366.81	$518,436.89

THEO. W. ECKHART, *Financial Secretary*

If we assume that the Districts remitted 80 per cent of their Peace Thankoffering receipts, then the aggregate of all receipts during this year is $5,275,360.08, and adding $2,193.24 received last year, makes a grand total of $5,277,553.32.

Brandt, John, in Immanuel Congregation, Hewitt, Wis., by Alvin H. Moog, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Breuer, P. G., in Grace Congregation, Jamaica, N. Y., by Louis S. Wagner, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Friedrich, Carl H., in St. John's Congregation, Wright, Minn., by Alvin G. Fehner, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Hawlicheck, A., in St. Matthew's Congregation, Pawtucket, R. I., by Karl Graesser, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Hoyer, Hugo, in Zion Congregation, Fairmont, Okla., by Pres. Otto Hoyer, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Lechner, E. H., in Emmanuel Congregation, Kingfisher, Okla., by Paul Hoyer, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Maurer, W. R., in Christ Congregation, Juniata, Nebr., by Edw. Beckler, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Meyer, Victor L., in St. Paul's Congregation, Boise, Idaho, by H. A. Kahle, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Muhl, R. M., in St. Peter's Congregation, Snyder, Nebr., by Victor Hoffmann, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Tensmeyer, W. H., in Concordia Congregation, Burlington, Iowa, by Enno Schuelke, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Uhlig, Marvin A., in the Mavie-Grygla-Star Twp. parish by V. E. Schroeder, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Droegemueller, August F., in Bethel Congregation, Bryan, Tex., by T. H. Graalmann, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Hinck, Waldemar E., in St. Paul's Congregation, Carroll, Iowa, by Martin Jung, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Schabacker, Martin, Jr., in St. Paul's Congregation, Central City, Nebr., by A. C. Warneke, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Theiss, Wilbert F., in St. John's Congregation, Port Washington, Wis., by Oscar Kaiser, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

TEACHERS

Bauer, Cand. Raymond, in Trinity Congregation, Toledo, Ohio, by Geo. Blievernicht, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Fiedler, Cand. Ralph, in St. Paul's Congregation, San Francisco, Calif., by G. E. Kirchner, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Grams, Cand. Armin, in Redeemer Congregation, Cicero, Ill., by John W. Klotz, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Wilharm, Cand. Vernon L., in Trinity Congregation, Manistee, Mich., by T. Zeile, 2. Adv. Sun., Dec. 9.

Endorf, John E., in St. Paul's Congregation, Evansville, Ind., by E. G. Dobelstein, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Freitag, Alfred J., in Covenant Church, Detroit, Mich., as instructor in the Detroit Lutheran High School by Paul Boecler, 16. Sun. p. Tr., Sept. 16.

Kaemming, L. W., in St. Peter's Congregation, St. Peter, Ill., by F. J. Duecker, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Mieger, Alfred W., in Bethany Congregation, San Diego, Calif., by Martin Lankow, 1. Adv. Sun., Dec. 2.

Cornerstone Laying

Brookfield, Ill. (O. A. Rockhoff). St. Paul's Congregation, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Anniversary

Fosston, Minn. First English Lutheran Congregation (W. T. Janzow), the 25th, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Election Results

Since Prof. A. H. Schwermann, President of Concordia College, Edmonton, Alberta, Can., declined the call to the office of president at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., the electoral board of said institution met in a duly called meeting on December 13 and elected *Rev. Oliver R. Harms,* Houston, Tex., for the office of president. — PAUL L. DANNENFELDT, *Secretary, Electoral Board.*

Dr. E. L. Lueker was elected to teach Latin and German at St. Paul's College, Concordia, Mo., December 11, 1945. — WM. O. SCHMIDT, *Sec.*

Announcements

Rev. W. C. Burmeister, hitherto stationed at Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., has severed his connection with our Synod. — HERMAN W. BARTELS, *President, English District.*

Pastor Arthur Pape has been appointed Visitor of the East Circuit in place of Pastor C. L. Schultz, who accepted a call into another circuit. — OTTO HOYER, *President of the Oklahoma District.*

Alva, Okla., Dec. 10, 1945

Call for Candidates for Professorship at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Since a peaceful dismissal has been granted Professor Walter E. Buszin for the acceptance of the call to the chair of the music department of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill., the local board of control with the approval of the Board of Directors herewith asks all congregations of Synod to place in nomination men qualified to teach Latin and Greek, for the time being in the lower classes.

By Jan. 23 all nominations and characterizations should be in the hands of PAUL L. DANNENFELDT, *Secretary,* Board of Control, Concordia College, 2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne 5, Ind.

Call for Candidates

With the permission of Synod's Board of Directors the Board of Control of Concordia College, Crespo, Entre Rios, Argentina, requests the congregations of Synod to nominate candidates for the now vacant chair of the second professor, who should be qualified to teach languages, for instance, Latin or Greek, and English or German, and especially music and drawing, and probably some subjects in natural science.

Kindly send all nominations and communications regarding them not later than Jan. 7 to Rev. C. F. Lehenbauer, R. 1, Nokomis, Ill., secretary of the board of electors. — S. H. BECKMANN, *Chairman of Board of Control,* Crespo, E. R., Argentina.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 3, 1945

Changes of Address

Pastors:

Bauer, Herman M., 424 W. Boone St., Belvidere, Ill.
Bertram, A. H., R. 6, Waterloo, Iowa.
Bleeke, A. O., 201 W. Third St., Storm Lake, Iowa.
Feucht, Oscar E., 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis 18, Mo.
Friedrich, C. H., Wright, Minn.
Hartman, Ervin H., 7546 Crandon Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Hauser, Luther, McFarland, Kans.
Hinck, Waldemar, 702 N. Adams St., Carroll, Iowa.
Klinkermann, O. J., 702 S. Fourth St., Pekin, Ill.
Krause, Elmer W., Box 203, Marion, S. Dak.
Pankow, B. J., Av. Chapultepec 640-14, Mexico, D. F., Mexico.
Pullmann, Martin A., R. 2, Hoxie, Kans.
Riedel, Robert J., c/o Rev. F. T. Schroeder, 30 Jefferson St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rubel, Leo E., 1405 Seventh Ave., Greeley, Colo.
Schmidt, Warren H., 115 Cornelia Ave., Glendale 22, Mo.
Schulte, E. N., 2827 Fredrick, R. 1, Rochester, Mich.
Uhlig, N. P., 333 E. Morton Ave., Jacksonville, Ill.

Teachers:

Kaemming, L. W., Box 34, St. Peter, Ill.
Mieger, A. W., 2040 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., San Diego 7, Calif.

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

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All church news should be sent to Prof. George V. Schick, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

All obituaries should be sent to Prof. W. G. Polack, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

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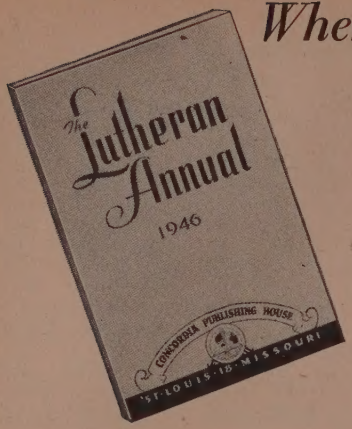

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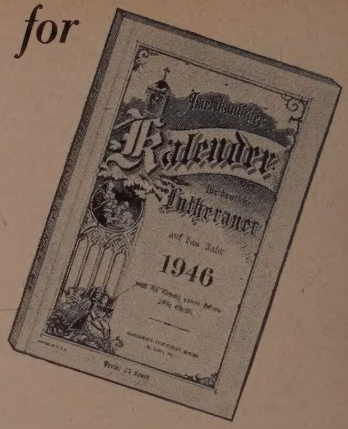

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Whom would you call if you were stranded in Deer Lodge, Montana? Do we have a Lutheran hospital in Chicago? Where would you write to find a Lutheran orphanage, a Lutheran home for the aged, a Lutheran college, a Lutheran high school? Where could you find the address of the Lutheran Publicity Bureau?

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